ONE WORLD UNDER DOOM

MARVEL

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THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!

Fantastic Four

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MARVEL REMEMBERS

JIM SHOOTER

1951-2025

Marvel remembers the life and career of Jim Shooter, a giant of the comics industry. Jim began his career in comics at the age of 14 writing DC's Legion of Super Heroes in *Action Comics*. He came to Marvel in 1976 and quickly moved up to become editor in chief, holding that position from 1978 to 1987. He brought new ideas and processes to the company, creating an editorial structure and supportive initiatives for creators that are still in place today.

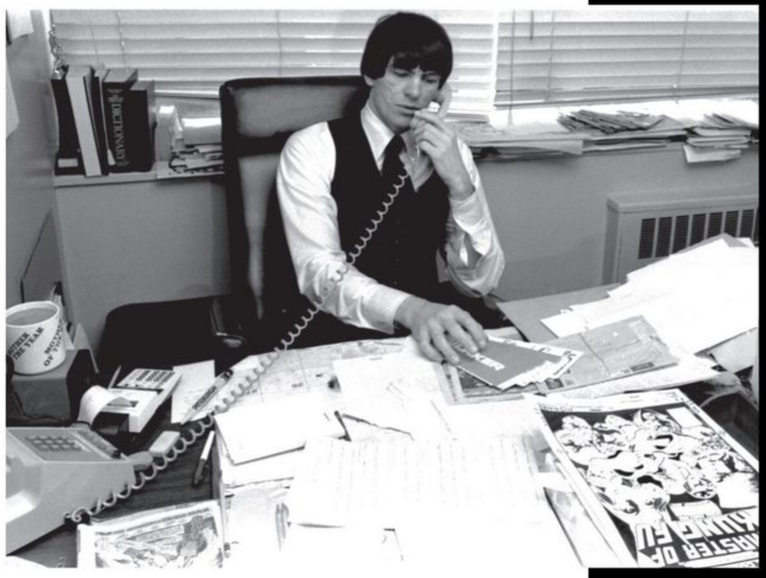
Under his tenure, Marvel released classic stories such as Jim Starlin's *Death of Captain Marvel*, Walter Simonson's *Thor*, Frank Miller's *Daredevil* and Chris Claremont's *X-Men*. His *Secret Wars* limited series also went on to usher in an era of event comics and company-wide crossovers.

After leaving Marvel, he would go on to lead three other comic book companies and continue writing and making convention appearances. Shooter profoundly affected the comics industry, and his undeniable legacy will not be forgotten.

FOR MORE REMEMBRANCES OF JIM SHOOTER FROM MARVEL AND THE COMICS COMMUNITY, PLEASE VISIT MARVEL.COM.

"The modern comic book industry would not be the same without Jim Shooter's contributions as a writer, editor and editor in chief. He left an indelible mark on our business, both creatively and culturally, and so many of us are where we are today thanks to Jim bringing Marvel to such prominence in the '80s. I met Jim for the first time when I was 13 years old and last saw him in the summer of 2022, where I was able to tell him how much his efforts meant to me and so many fans, and how it was an honor to be following in his footsteps. Rest in peace, Jim."

— C.B. CEBULSKI, EDITOR IN CHIEF



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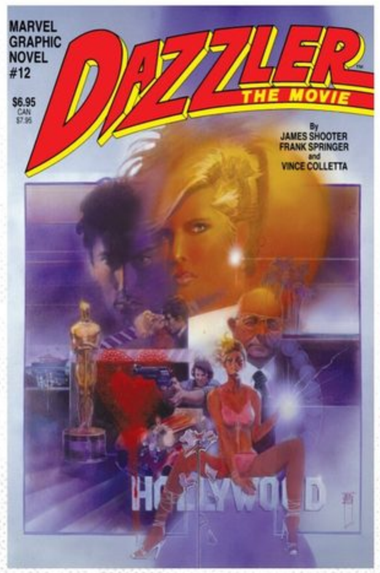

JOHNNY STORM
HUMAN TORCH

BEN GRIMM
THE THING

SUSAN RICHARDS
INVISIBLE WOMAN

REED RICHARDS
MISTER FANTASTIC

Fantastic Four

The **Fantastic Four** are at the mercy of **Doctor Doom**, Sorcerer Supreme and Emperor of Earth. Doom used his mystical might to scatter the fantastic family to different points in history. With the help of Reed's invention, the **Time-Sled**, Reed, Sue, Johnny, and Ben barely made it back to the present alive--only to be utterly defeated by Doom once more. It was revealed that Doom was using **time magic** to repeatedly reset the universe--excluding himself--to gain the knowledge he needed to make himself virtually unbeatable.

As Doom unraveled space-time again, the Fantastic Four covertly sent the Time-Sled back to their past selves...so they could have one last chance to defeat Doom.

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FANTASTIC FOUR CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

Earlier.*

The one magical weapon that could hurt me: the *Doomblade*, Susan. You found it, and I've now *destroyed* it.

It's funny: I'm *almost* in your *debt*.

But why? Why hide Latveria from the world? Why hide yourself for *months*?

What are you *planning*, Victor?

*In FANTASTIC FOUR #28 (2022)! --Tom.

SCKKKKLT!

Grah!

KHEEEEEEEK!

What are you *planning*, Victor?

"Planning"?

The time for planning was *months* ago, you ludicrous fool. What I have achieved is *already done*.

Earlier.*

NOW!

Hit him with everything you've got!!!

*In ONE WORLD UNDER DOOM #3. --Tom

ARRRRGHHH!

He's down, and he won't be getting back up!

Good work, team! Now let's--

NOW!

Hit him with everything you've got!!!

That--

--was unwise.

WHAM

NOW.

That's the *Time-Sled:* the one we hid waiting for a signal from the *Forever Stone!*

But, Reed, that's supposed to wait for *us* to signal it--and we're all *here*, safe and sound.

Could it have been some kinda malfunction? Come here by *accident?*

I don't think so, Ben. Look.

It's damaged, sure--but some of it was at least *intentional.*

It almost looks like...

It is, Sue. This is *braille.*

And you wrote it.

It says you *pushed* these indentations into the vehicle yourself, all at once. It was the last thing you did.

You were dying.

My god.

Everyone was *dying.*

After the entire message is read...

So--I mean, I hate to say it, but...

...if Doom's ***resetting time*** every time you guys beat him, then--we're ***pooched***, right?

I agree with Franklin. Doom has discovered a way to turn every loss into a ***victory***. It is an impressive stratagem.

No ***wonder*** we kept losin' ta him!!

So, *uh*--anyone got any bright ideas?

I have one. Fight ***fire*** with ***fire.***

Yes! Good thinking, Alicia--let's do ***that!***

Flame-O on!!

No, Johnny, I just meant that if Doom is messing with ***time***, then ***we*** could beat him by using time travel too.

Y'know, go back to prevent him from ever coming up with save states in the first place or whatever.

Oh. Right. Yeah, that--that probably works too.

:Sigh:

Flame-O off.

It's no good--I'll confirm elsewhere, but the Sled's time circuits aren't ***latching on*** to anything.

I believe Victor has magically blocked ***all*** time travel--likely, immediately after the universe was ***reset.***

So time travel's off th' board--an' any ***attack*** means Doomie jes' restores an old ***save state*** and beats us. ***Terrific.***

Any ***direct*** attack, you mean.

Yes! If we can attack him without him ***noticing***...then victory ***will*** be ours.

You know, Nicki, Jo...that's not a bad idea. Presuming there's some ***machinery*** involved in Doom's manipulation of time and we can ***locate*** it--***destroy*** it before he knows we're there...

...then we've got a ***chance*** again. I love it!

So how do we ***find*** it?

The fact that your future self, Sue, could inscribe such a message means the temporal reset ***itself*** takes time.

On equipment as large and as sensitive as this, there may remain artifacts.

Microfractures.

By stretching the lenses of my eyes to produce a ***microscope*** and correlating them with the Time-Sled's magnetometer, I may be able to... ***Yes.***

The data ***does,*** in fact, suggest a single point of origin for the time change!

Then we have our destination. Everyone--get ready.

Where are we headed?

Nuh-uh, no way. You kids are staying here with me. The first thing they teach you at Aunt School is how bad an idea it is to bring kiddos to ***any*** of Doom's ***secret lairs.***

I sincerely doubt that's actually the first item of the curriculum.

I'm serious, Val. It was before we even got our ***name tags.***

Johnny, Ben--my advice is to pack warmly...

"...because we're headed to *Antarctica.*"

Not again.

Why, Johnny? *Why?*

First off, *Sue,* since these winter jackets aren't made of *unstable molecules*, mine would burn off the second I flamed on. So this is actually sensible *and* economical.

Second off, I look amazing, and you *gotta* give the people what they want.

What people?!

Um, Antarctic researchers? They're here, elsewhere on the ice!

Are they not worthy of *pecs??* Am I not worthy of giving them the merest glimpse of *said pecs?*

The coordinates suggest Doom must have a facility a dozen meters below this location, inside the ice.

Sigh

Just melt us a way in, Johnny.

FLAME ON!!

One ice cavern access port, hot to go!

Well...

...wouldya look at *that.*

I think mebbe we found th' source 'a all our *troubles,* gang.

And ta paraphrase an *acquaintance* of mine...

"It's clobbering time"?

Nah.

BEN SMASH!

SMASH!

CRASH!

And *that* is how ya do it.

A shame: If the right hands even *existed* for a combination of technology and magic like this, it could be an *incredible* boon.

So, question: The debris...

...why is it *moving*?

Holy Hannah!

It's *rebuilding itself!*

But--*how*? It shouldn't be possible, unless--

Unless it was under the *enchanted protection* of the *Sorcerer Supreme*, yes.

As you can see, Richards...

...*Doom* has thought of *everything.*

Ben and I are taking Doom--you two find a way to make that machine ***stay*** dead!

You got it, Sis!!

You four have ***never*** defeated me even at full strength--and yet you expect ***half strength*** to work against ***Emperor Doom?***

Ludicrous. But tell me this: How did you ***discover*** this facility?

Why, Doomie, ya know ol' blushin' blue-eyed ***Ben Grimm*** ain't one ta tell ***tales*** outta schoo--

AARGH!

Okay. A time engine's still an ***engine,*** right? There must be ***something*** we can do to ***jam*** it.

Perhaps. With any luck, I should be able to--

Oh no.

Johnny, I--

I don't think we ***can*** destroy this machine.

Ah--***now*** you see Doom's ***masterstroke.*** My engine stands ***magically bound*** to ***time itself.***

Destroying it would mean destroying the ***space-time continuum*** across the ***entire*** solar system.

SNAP

Then--what, we've ***lost?*** We can't ***do*** anything here?

Please. You can't do anything ***anywhere,*** Benjamin. I've explained this to you before so many times, so I know what you need to hear.

Your "Human Torch" calls them "save states."

KCCCRT

ARRRGH!

I reset the entire universe to an earlier moment--but only ***Doom*** keeps his memories. I learn, I ***adapt,*** and you all stay the same.

In this way, I can ***never*** be defeated.

In this way, Doom is ***eternal.***

Johnny Storm has an idea-- for once, **he's** figured out a way to outsmart **Doctor Doom.**

An eternal Doom.

That's it.

But if he **shares** it, Doom will know it too and then **prevent** it from working.

And so he writes it...

Sue! I'm in the Apollo era over here!

KCCCRT

RARGGGGH!

...in hydrogen flames.

The Apollo era at NASA: the beginnings of crewed spaceflight.

Hydrogen burns largely in the **infrared** spectrum--invisible to human eyes, undetectable in daylight. It's a naturally occurring **invisible fire.**

If NASA suspected a **hydrogen fire,** workers detected it by waving **straw brooms** around tanks.

When a broom spontaneously **burst into flame,** they'd found their leak.

Which means it's **also** a way for Johnny to communicate without letting it slip that he's saying **anything.**

Grrah!

Sue, hearing Johnny's code phrase, **bends** his fire's light **out** of the invisible spectrum, and **into** their eyes **only.**

And Mr. Fantastic sees what he needs to do:

Rewire the machine's **read** commands into **writes**...

...so Doom's **restores** become **saves.**

Go, Johnny! Hit him with everything you've got!

NOW!!

You got it, mister!

NOVA FLAME!!

FWOOSH!

FWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOSH

Such *insolence!* You will *not* strike Doom again!!

Oh yeah?

Ya wanna *bet,* Doomie?

SMAK!

You *dare* knock my mask from my face? You *intolerable* fools.

This will *not* stand...

KCHREEEEEEK!

...and you will now be *dearly punished* for it.

Ya wanna bet, Doomie?

SMAK!

What? No, it's not--

KHREEEEEK!

What is happening here?

Ya wanna bet, Doomie?

SMAK!

Impossible!

Ya wanna bet, Doomie?

SMAK!

Doom's save states--all of them-- gone! All replaced by this--

--this ONE INSTANT!!

Ya wanna bet, Doomie?

SMAK!

The hit: an indignity that can not, **will** not, be tolerated.

SMAK!

Doom, of course, realizes how the **Fantastic Four** have turned his own machine against him. He knows precisely how he has been **defeated.**

But he also knows this defeat will only **endure** if he **permits** it to. He still has that fraction of a second--before he's hit--to find **another way.**

One fraction of a second at a time, Doom **searches** for it. He is hit over and over and **over** again, for hours. Days. **Months.**

A timeless era passes. And another. Another.

And yet he **refuses** to give up, hit after hit after hit. Why should he?

For Victor Von Doom has all the time in the world.

Until suddenly he doesn't...

What's th' matter, Doomie?

Ya need a minute?!

...when his time engine finally burns itself out-- through overuse.

My time engine-- destroyed!

And when it burned out, I ensured it altered local space-time too--

--so this trick won't work again, Victor.

You don't get to cheat anymore. You don't get to win every single battle. We won't be living under your armored thumb any longer.

No matter. This time engine was a-- distraction. Unnecessary.

Uh-huh. Sure thing, "Emperor."

You just keep telling yourself that.

I shall. Goodbye, "Fantastic Four."

And you, Jonathan--you keep telling yourself that Doom will not, one day, revenge himself upon you.

For false hope is the cruelest hope of all, you ridiculous man.

LATER.

"Emperor Doom." I can't believe we still have to hear people *calling* him that.

We won't for much longer. The world couldn't win before. We can now.

His *cheatin'* sure makes a lotta things make *sense*, I don't mind tellin' ya.

I think I'm realizing I don't know how to *help* him.

Victor, I mean.

You wanna *help* that guy?

I gotta go with my brother on this one, honey.

He bent time and space to form an engine that ensured he'd *never lose again.* It's objectively impressive.

I think Victor could do great things. I think he does great things already. But they're all--*twisted.*

A machine like that doesn't let anyone *grow.* You're never forced to *learn* from any mistakes, because you never *make* them.

It just-- *traps* everyone in the people they are.

I swear, I'll never understand th' *hope* ya got fer him, Stretcho.

It's the same hope I have for everyone, old friend.

The hope that we can learn from our mistakes and *overcome* our demons, no matter how much they torture us.

So that one day, together...

...we might become our *best selves.*

Fantastic Four Fan Page

I've read a lot of the '60s, '70s and '80s FF issues but have not kept up with any of the more recent stories. Kinda fell out of the FF world. I've recently decided to check in and start reading this new series, starting with FANTASTIC THREE. Just finished #32, THE FANTASTIC ONE. Wow! It was so good! The story was great! The art was fantastic. Franklin looked amazing! Namor and Jean showing up was excellent. One of the best stories I've read in a long time. Great work!

A returning FF fan,
Joe Melendez
Hacienda Heights, CA

Always happy to welcome back a returning fan, Joe! It's never too late to hop back on board!

I just read FANTASTIC FOUR #33, and I am WRECKED! This series is incredible. Every issue is a delight and a treasure--and sometimes a punch of pure emotion! And some of them (the alien world with Johnny's girlfriend and choosing who goes extinct! The Puppet Master in his cell!) are the kinds of things that linger long, long after you've turned the last page.

I love the sincerity of this series, how it has so much heart and isn't afraid or ashamed of that! So often these days, you run into stories (comics, movies, TV shows, etc.) that are afraid of admitting to real, genuine feelings, so they push everything off behind a cover of snark or veneer of condescension--like earnest emotions are immature and pitiable and have to be looked down on or smirked at from a safe distance.

This series of FANTASTIC FOUR doesn't do that. It wears its heart on its sleeve and then fires up a flaming signal flare from the roof of the Baxter Building to make sure nobody misses it.

And I love that about it. Thank you. I love reading this comic book and knowing that I'm going to feel something real. Maybe it will come with some comedy (the Johnny-and-Ben jobs competition! Ben talking Doom and Doomsaur into defeating each other!), and maybe it will just be straight heart-jerking pathos (Ben using the Puppet Master's clay on himself!). But however it arrives, it will be real and true and earned.

Thank you for that. Thank you for this series and these characters and the family around them. Thank you for writing something that isn't ashamed to have heart (or science!) and revels in love and adventure alike.

Thank you, Ryan North and everyone, for this Fantastic Four.

Nicky Wagman
Comix Connection
Mechanicsburg, PA

You're welcome, Nicky! After all, the whole reason we read stuff is to feel things!

Hi there,

I read FANTASTIC FOUR from the beginning, and I want to send my appreciation for Ryan North's run. It's full of science and clever insights, and all the characters are well written in my opinion. Keep up the good work.

Roberto Pizzignach
Italy

Glad you've been enjoying things, Roberto!

Dear FF Team,

I finally had a chance to finish the last of this "countdown" arc. I really enjoyed FANTASTIC FOUR #32 as it focused on Franklin and Valeria. It was interesting that Val likely wasn't delivered by Doctor Doom, and that's why she was named after Mary Storm instead. Val was also able to take on that "your daughter from a different timeline" role again! The story told of Franklin as a child God was chilling and really worked. That incorporated Franklin's history with his powers and with Galactus well. The stuff of time travel gets really freaky and scary sometimes, and that was captured really well, but hey, it ended on the bond between two siblings who love each other.

And now for FANTASTIC FOUR #33--! I really enjoyed how H.E.R.B.I.E. was integrated into the story. Cory Smith did a great job with the robo-emoting! I do have to say, a friend I was talking to about this issue pointed out that Reed was quick to "erm, actually..." Val even though he usually lets her finish explaining. I understand that science talk--again expertly done by Ryan--is in service of the reader and plot, but I can see their argument that it came at the cost of Reed's character nuance. I get that Val has something to prove, but it shouldn't have to be to her father. For what it's worth, I thought the ending was a great talk between them after the stress of the crisis was over. It was a creative plot concept and full circle for the end.

Lan Li

Well, nobody's perfect, Lan. Not even Mister Fantastic.

Next time: A new dog teaches the FF some old tricks! See you there!

Tom B
8/5/25

As always, if you've got an opinion to share, you can email it to us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM. Be sure to mark your letters as "Okay to Print!" if you'd like to see them featured here on the Fan Page!

Next

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